

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



1.982  
A2R11  
Apr. 1, 1943  
Reserve

Take Care of the Wool You Have

Broadcast by Ruth Van Deman, Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, and Wallace Kadderly, Radio Service, in the Department of Agriculture's portion of the National Farm and Home Hour, Thursday, April 1, 1943, over stations associated with the Blue Network.

--ooCoo--

WALLACE KADDERLY: Now, Ruth, how about that information you promised us yesterday on putting away winter woollens.

RUTH VAN DEMAN: Wallace, I think those bees you were talking about must have got into my bonnet. Anyway, listen to this:

Don't let the busy little moth  
Improve these days of spring  
By eating, with no ration book  
One precious woolen thing.

KADDERLY: Good enough ..... That reminds me, I saw a moth - one of those silvery, slithery little clothes moths - flying under the reading lamp last night.

VAN DEMAN: Did you catch it?

KADDERLY: No use. That moth was already past the eating stage. It ate its way out of some nice woolly nest as a little white worm, before it got its wings.

VAN DEMAN: But the wing stage is when a moth lays eggs, to make more worms ..... to eat more holes. ....

KADDERLY: To ruin more of our precious woolen things. .... True. That is the life cycle of a clothes moth.

VAN DEMAN: And now of all times, we haven't any wool to waste. For instance, it takes about 200 pounds of fleece wool for uniforms and blankets for every new Johnny Doughboy inducted into the Army. The supply of new wool produced in this country is limited. And we can never be sure how much we can import.

KADDERLY: What's this you're handing me, Ruth? Another new home economics bulletin?

VAN DEMAN: Right ..... the No. 1 copy of a new folder just coming from the press ..... something to help in the campaign to conserve wool. The title you see is .....

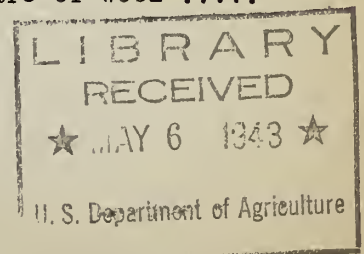
KADDERLY: "Take Care of the Wool You Have."

VAN DEMAN: On page 1 you'll find the five rules for the care of wool .....

KADDERLY: These, you mean? Shall I read them?

VAN DEMAN: Please.

(over)



KADDERLY: Keep it clean. ... Give it air. ... Don't shock it. ... What does that mean, don't shock it?

VAN DEMAN: Don't wash wool in nice lukewarm suds and then hang it out to dry in an icy wind. Or don't wash wool in boiling hot water, or dry it near a hot stove, or on the radiator. When it's wet, wool can't stand sharp changes of temperature like that. They make it shrink and mat down the fluffy fibers that give wool its warmth.

KADDERLY: O.K. We'll try not to give wool a shock when it's wet. .... And the final rule here is - "Protect it from pests." Which brings us back to the moths and carpet beetles.

Ruth, have you checked on supplies of moth flakes. .... naphthalene and paradichlorobenzene this spring?

VAN DEMAN: Yes, there are said to be plenty of chemicals, at least for the spring offensive on the enemies of wool. And you know the experts say not to spare the ammunition when you go into a battle with clothes moths and carpet beetles. They recommend a pound of moth flakes or balls for every small trunk or chest, or every 100 cubic feet of closet where you store woollens for the summer.

KADDERLY: Let me be sure I get that straight.....one pound of moth flakes or moth balls for a small trunk or a good-sized closet, filled with winter woollens.

VAN DEMAN: That's right. And the moth balls or flakes may be either naphthalene or paradichlorobenzene. Just in case that long word gets you down, it's all spelled out there in the new folder on how to take care of wool.

KADDERLY: Thanks, Ruth. I generally call that paradi - for short.

VAN DEMAN: So do the drugstore clerks, I notice, when I go to buy it. But before winter woollens are stored away they need to be clean - spotlessly clean.

KADDERLY: And your new folder gives the how-to-do-it for that, I see.

VAN DEMAN: Yes, there are special tricks to washing sweaters to keep them in shape. And ways that help blankets to stay soft and warm. .... We can't go into all that today. But this new folder will be on call for any one who wants to send us a post card request.

KADDERLY: Just address this card as usual?

VAN DEMAN: Yes. Ask for the wool folder. ... "Take Care of the Wool You Have" is the full title. And address the card - Home Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.